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personal equation. But after all he could only tell of events as he saw them, in the light of his own training and preconceptions. Its very lack of controversial tone will in the end make his work the more valuable for its point of view. Its omissions, no less than the matters which it comprises, and those which it particularly emphasizes, will have significance fifty years hence as helping to show how history seemed unfolding before the eyes of an intelligent and disinterested American who was in the prime of his active life in the turbulent period of high dynamics that followed the civil war. As compared with Mr. Justin McCarthy's method in his *History of Our Own Times*, President Andrews' narrative is less elaborate and less ambitious, whether from the philosophical or the literary standpoint; but the American work is more tense, vital and dramatic. It is by no means to be dismissed as a work of small importance. On the contrary it is both a remarkable and a creditable exploit. The average citizen will read it with avidity, and the student will find it most convenient by reason of its rapid and consecutive survey of a period so recent that hitherto there has been no attempt to mark it off with historical guide-posts.

ALBERT SHAW

The Story of Canada. By J. G. BOURINOT, LL. D., Clerk of the Canadian House of Commons. [The Story of the Nations.] (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1896. Pp. xx, 463.)

THIS volume is on the whole no discredit to the *Story of the Nations* series. The author has had his work conditioned for him very largely, and his critics are precluded from scrutiny along some of the main lines of historical requirement. The book will probably increase Dr. Bourinot's reputation as a ready popularizer; he can hardly expect it to add to his claim as an historical student. No addition is made in it to our knowledge or to our insight; beyond some well-used citations from the early French explorers, but slight evidence of independent research is presented either in text or footnote. As a popular statement, however, the book will be useful. The secondary authorities have been industriously used, the arrangement is fairly good, the illustrations are well selected, the style is in the main easy and direct, the tone moderate and just.

The distribution of this narrative is however frequently ill-advised. Two-thirds of the historical portion carries us only to 1760; a disproportion due mainly to the fact that the first fifty pages barely cover a period to which the voluminous Kingsford gives only twenty. Chapter VII., which sketches the Acadia of 1614-77 in about the same space as had in Chapter V. been devoted to the period 1604-14, is mainly occupied with unimportant details of the unimportant struggles between Charnizay and La Tour. Eighteen pages are devoted to Indian tribal conditions, while only eleven are assigned to a description (necessarily most superficial) of the social and institutional characteristics of Canada throughout its whole life as a French royal province (1663-1759). Entirely too much space,

relatively speaking, seems given to a conventional statement of the activities of the French beyond the limits of Canada proper ; while the meagre five pages that are given to the important and obscure years, 1792-1812, are explained but not justified by the statement that this period "does not require any extended space in this work" (p. 309). Finally it seems to the present reviewer a fundamental defect to stop the book historically with the Confederation of 1867. This the author explains by saying, "It is not proposed to enter into the conflicts of political parties or to review those dominion and provincial questions which make up the politics of Canada" (p. 406). While granting the wisdom of this abstention, it might be suggested that these things do not exhaust Canadian history since confederation. A generation has passed since that event ; have its energies been entirely absorbed in political squabbles ? Dr. Bourinot should further have remembered that it might possibly be held that "the development of the Canadian people as a nation," which he asserts as his main theme (p. 408), is to be sought for, if anywhere, since confederation rather than before ; that in regard to national life proper the Canadian provinces before confederation occupy much the same position as do the thirteen original colonies before the Revolutionary War.

It is doubtless difficult to avoid giving wrong impressions in a book of this kind and size ; such a wrong impression will most certainly be given the average reader by the curious reference (p. 194) to the Jesuits and the Indian brandy trade. That the statement (p. 89) in regard to the treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye (viz., that Charles I., on account of the grant of Acadia to Sir William Alexander, "delayed the negotiations for peace by every possible subterfuge"), is mistaken is shown by the official correspondence on the subject (*Calendar of State Papers, Colonial*, 1574-1660. Also, *Report on Canadian Archives*, 1884, pp. xi-xiv, lx-lxii) ; Mr. Brymner seems justified in saying rather that "Every effort was made, but in vain, to shake the King's resolution" to restore Quebec and Acadia. The treatment of the expulsion of the Acadians (p. 231-6) is praiseworthy for its temperate tone ; it cannot, however, be commended as otherwise satisfying. The assertion that Lawrence acted "no doubt at the instigation of Shirley and the authorities of New England" seems to be entirely unwarranted ; the conclusion that "The responsibility must rest mainly on Gov. Lawrence, and not on the imperial government, who never formally authorized the expatriation," is extremely weak if not shifty. How little the imperial authorities could have been taken by surprise is shown by the fact that more than a year before (in August, 1754) Lawrence had recommended the measure to the Lords of Trade, with the remark that he would not think of adopting it without their approbation. A reference to the *Calendar of Nova Scotia state papers* (*Report on Canadian Archives*, 1894, pp. 206-13) will show that this approbation was expressed by the Board clearly enough after the event, if not before ; their Lordships going even to the extent of expressing regret that the expulsion had not been more thorough (March 27, 1757). Further, when

on November 26, 1755, the Lords of Trade sent to the War Office the letter of the previous October 18th in which Lawrence had announced the expulsion, they at the same moment recommended his promotion to be captain-general and governor-in-chief of the province; a mark of unequivocal approbation which became a governmental one when, on the December 22d following, his commission to these offices was ratified by the ministry. The candid historian will hardly look for more "formal" approbation than these facts imply.

On minor points there is no space to linger further, and I pass to a fault of a more vital character. The *Story of the Nations* series undertakes, in the words of its prospectus, "to enter into the real life of the people and to bring them before the reader as they actually lived, labored and struggled." Viewed from this standpoint the present volume is woefully defective. The Canadian *people* do not figure in any adequate way in these pages. We learn here practically nothing as to their origin, characteristics or development. For the sketches of modern conditions which make up Chapters 28 and 29 are a poor substitute for that steady light upon popular development toward which modern historical scholarship strives. It is perhaps scarcely fair to expect from our author work for which no sufficient monographic basis has yet been laid; but yet enough has been done to have enabled Dr. Bourinot to show something of the real growth of the main elements of the people, their racial and historical equipment, their special environments, their social and economic development. Here was an opportunity (even in a *Story* series) for the man who really understood the depth and breadth of the national current, its composition, its direction, its velocity; unfortunately it was a task for which our author's training, tastes and environment did not fit him. We have here in consequence a volume which, though with distinct merits in its class, is after all of but limited and temporary value.

VICTOR COFFIN.

A Handbook of Greek Constitutional History, by A. H. J. Greenidge. (New York: The Macmillan Co. 1896. Pp. viii, 276.) The purpose of the author is "to give in a brief narrative form the main outlines of development of Greek Public Law, to represent the different types of states in the order of their development, and to pay more attention to the working than to the mere structure of constitutions." The plan and scope of the work as thus stated are admirable; and especially commendable is the inclusion of a chapter on federal governments. But the defects of the treatise as it stands are so serious as to impair greatly its usefulness. The language is often awkward and obscure, and the arrangement of words faulty. The work contains some wrong or at least ambiguous uses of words, some obvious misstatements of fact, and a multitude of inconsistencies. Indeed, the point of view so constantly shifts that the reader is justified in concluding that the author does not know his own mind. But more to be regretted than awkwardness and